

I have been an XM subscriber since Christmas of last year. I purchased the system as a gift to myself because I was tired of the commercials, shrinking playlists, and ridiculous disc jockeys available on my local FM stations. I travel frequently around the country and lament the fact that some local areas have wonderful FM programming while my area (Triangle in NC) has pitiful choices. With the purchase of my FM system, I was able to regain control of what I listen to - and when.

I have been a proponent of options that allow me to stop listening to the mass-market FM channels. On my digital cable, I listen to MusicChoice. On my computer, I listen to streaming audio. And in my home, car, and office, I listen to XM.

I saw a travel blog last spring that talked about the number of American cities the author had visited - well over 100 - and the number of cities without ClearChannel media was ZERO. Truly, it appears that the fox is guarding the hen house with regards to the broadcasting industry's policies. It appears that the broadcasting magnates are TALKING about listener choice while at the same time consolidating and growing larger. It just doesn't add up to me.

I sincerely urge you to reject the NAB's petition. Truly, the broadcasting industry appears to be afraid of losing because they stopped listening to what the listeners wanted a long time ago.

Sincerely,  
Laurie Gray